(3) Design and development of Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) using Thorium based fuel. Pre-licensing safety review of the AHWR has been completed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

(4) India has developed technologies to reprocess irradiated Thorium fuel, and in fabricating Uranium-233 based fuel.

Mining in Gopalpur and Manoharpur coalfields

†2453. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 75 million tonnes of coal mining is not being done in Gopalpur and Manoharpur coalfields;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether a reserve of 200 million tonnes of coal has been located in this area;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) when and to whom the responsibility of coal mining in the above coalfields was entrusted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The estimated coal reserves in the Gopalpur-Manoharpur Tract of Ib Valley Coalfield under jurisdiction of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) are around 5000 million tonnes and detailed exploration is continuing in this area. However, based on the detailed exploration conducted earlier in the area, Basundhra (West) Opencast Project (2.40 Mty) and Kulda Opencast Project (10.0 Mty) have been taken up by MCL during the Tenth Plan and these projects are under implementation.

(e) The responsibility of coal mining in Ib-Valley coalfields has been entrusted to MCL and MCL has planned to take up Garjanbahal (OCP) (10.0 Mty), Siramal OCP (8.0 M!y), Siarmal West Extension OCP (6.0 Mty) during the Eleventh Plan period after statutory clearances. Apart from MCL, 4 captive coal blocks namely Bijahan, Jamkhani, Manoharpur and Dip side of Manoharpur have been allotted for captive mining by Ministry of Coal till date. The expected total coal production from this area in the next 10-15 years time is around 50 million tonnes per year.

Transfer of land to CIL

2454. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1644 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 2006 and state:

(a) whether after payment of 2.50 lakhs to different beneficiaries, the title deed of the land bas been transferred in the name of Coal India Limited; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As stated in reply to para 'c' of the Unstarred Question No. 1644 given in Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 2006, an amount of Rs. 25 Lakhs was paid as compensation to the persons who were cultivating the Kolkata Municipal Corporation's land proposed for the hospital, as one time cash grant, for loss of their earnings. No payment was made by Coal India Limited (CIL) to Kolkata Municipal Corporation towards cost of land. Hence the title deed of land has not been transferred in the name of CIL.

Allocation of coal to NCCF

†2455. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of 20 lakh tonnes of coal which is made to National Consumer Co-operative Federation (NCCF) every year for distributing the same among the consumers by his Ministry is continuing at present or not;

(b) the quantum of coal allocated to NCCF during the last financial year and the quantity out of it lifted by NCCF;

(c) the quantum of coal distributed among the consumers out of the coal lifted by NCCF during the last financial year; and

(d) the details of these consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. 20 lakh tonnes of coal was allocated to National Consumer Co-operative Federation (NCCF) during the last financial year (2006-07) which is still continuing on pro-rata basis during the current financial year.

(b) During the last financial year (2006-07), NCCF lifted only 1.49 lakh tonnes of coal against the allocation of 20 lakh tonnes of coal.

(c) and (d) Coal India Limited (CIL) has reported that such details are not maintained by them.

Coal gasification projects

2456. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote *in situ* coal gasification;

(b) if so, whether such a technology is commercially viable; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.